



SOUNDS OF GLORY



Glory of God Lutheran Church Newsletter

Don't Forget...

Please join us at 9 AM each Sunday for Worship:

We are in person or online. You can always check out our [GOG website](#) for more information.

Daily Devotions:

If you'd like to receive daily email devotions from Dana, please email her to get in the Daily Devotions Group.

Visits from Dana:

Thanks to all of you who have already visited with me – it's wonderful to be able to get to know you better. However, I'm still looking to visit with as many folks as possible here at GOG. I'll meet anywhere you like (within reason) – your place, GOG, some other place like a coffee or fast-food place, wherever works for you. (I'll even spring for some coffee if that provides an added incentive.) Just call me (414-916-3241) or shoot me an email (dana@gloryofgodchurch.net) to set up a time. Thanks!!

Our Call To Love

On Sunday, February 1, following my sermon on Jesus' teachings on the Sermon on the Mount, I (Dana) expressed my concerns about what's going on in Minneapolis and other cities in our country. For those who weren't able to hear my comments, following is a close approximation of what I said:

"I can't walk us through Jesus' teachings in this sermon – his call to love our enemies, his reminder that God blesses those in the margins, his command to treat people as we want to be treated -- without speaking to what's going on in Minneapolis and other cities across the US. I'm hoping if I share where I am, it may help some of you process your own thoughts.

When I saw the videos of heavily armed ICE agents violently and seemingly indiscriminately arresting people based on how they looked or spoke, or their country of origin, and also saw the videos of Renee Good and Alex Pretti killed by ICE agents, I was shocked, and angry, and dismayed and scared, and just really really sad. Because this is all just so wrong.

As disciples of Jesus, we see and interpret everything through the lens of our faith; it informs everything we think and do. And we know this, we talk about it again and again here at Glory of God -- everyone is made in God's image, everyone is God's beloved child, and every single person deserves to be treated with dignity and respect. And this is true for all people, regardless of one's immigration status, regardless of one's political views, regardless of any other characteristic that someone wants to apply to divide or demean.

And while I am sometimes at a loss as to what to do here, I do know that I need to do something. I do know that I cannot avoid looking, or somehow pretend that this has nothing to do with me. This is my government acting and if I don't speak up, I am complicit.

(Continued on next page)

Our Call To Love (Con't)

I still have a lot of uncertainty about how to move forward -- it will take lots of prayer, lots of discernment. But you know over these last few days and weeks I've seen and heard about some really brave and compassionate people in Minneapolis and elsewhere acting in love to help their neighbors, and that gives me hope. Because this we know -- love is more powerful than hate or fear or anger or anything else the world can throw at us. Love is who our God is and, therefore, it's who we are as well."

I am sharing this message with all humility, recognizing that disciples of Jesus can see things differently. If anyone wants to talk further, I'd love to. Please contact me.

Fletcher Miller Luncheon

Just a heads-up everyone. Fletcher Miller School is moving in April, and we'll be doing a luncheon for the staff on March 19 as they begin packing everything up. We'll need lots of help with food and snacks and some people to come along to help. Look for more information coming soon.

Updated GOG Directory

Later this month we'll be sending out some questionnaires to ask you to update your information for our updated directory. (We'll also be asking a couple of fun questions just to help us get to know each other better.) Please be on the look-out for our questionnaire.



Blankets made by the craft group for the children at Children's Hospital

February Birthdays

Feb. 4	Marianne Dunham
Feb. 9	Nancy Harju
Feb. 10	Wil Swanson
Feb. 12	Marlene Baneck Madi Hornecker
Feb. 15	Matt Hall
Feb. 19	Greg Pattison
Feb. 25	Nancy Brant
Feb. 27	Julie Hohn

February Prayer Families

February 1

Hohn, Hornecker, Jessop, Johnson

February 8

Kirkland, Kubasta, Link, Linsenmeyer

February 15

Losey, Lundgren, Marquez, Maruyama

February 22

Miller, Moon, Nuanes, O'Brien

Save the Dates

2/9- Lunch Bunch

2/10 - Council Meeting

2/14 - Valentine's Day

2/16- President's Day - *Office Closed*

What's Coming Up on Sundays in February:

Here are some things to look forward to on upcoming Sundays:

- **The Sermon on the Mount on February 1.** We'll look at what Jesus has to say about how we live as his disciples in the world in this famous compilation of Jesus' teachings. We'll also celebrate those with February birthdays, and bless some blankets made by the craft group.
- **Some Challenging Teachings of Jesus on February 8.** We look at five hard sayings of Jesus about wealth, forgiveness, and the cost of discipleship. We'll see that some of Jesus' words were so challenging that many of his followers left him. And stay after worship to celebrate Nancy Harju's 90th birthday.
- **February 15 - Some Parables of Jesus.** Today, we concentrate on some of Jesus' parables in Luke's gospel, including the parables of lost things, the story of the Good Samaritan, the rich man who built bigger barns, and more. What do these parables teach us about God and God's kingdom?
- **More Parables of Jesus on February 22.** On this first Sunday in Lent, we look at lots of parables in Matthew's gospel that give us clues as to what God's kingdom looks like. These are some of my favorites -- the wheat and weeds, the workers in the vineyard and Jesus' famous parable of the sheep and goats.

February 8 Super Bowl Sock Collection

As part of our sock collection for our homeless care bags, we also have the opportunity to show our support for the two teams playing on the Super Bowl. On Sunday, February 8, bring in athletic and other warm socks to "vote" for the team you want to win. We have two boxes in the Narthex -- one for the New England Patriots and the other for the Seattle Seahawks. One pair of socks = one vote. And we encourage everyone to bring in lots of socks and vote multiple times. We'll announce our "winner" during worship (and then you can see how accurate we were when you watch the Super Bowl later that day). All socks collected will go in our care bags or to local agencies who work with the homeless.

Collection of personal items and socks

We're continuing our collection of personal care items to make more care bags for the homeless. The craft group is busy knitting hats and the rest of us can help by bringing in toiletries, small snack items and warm socks to fill our bags. Needed items include hand wipes, toothbrushes and travel size toothpaste, small deodorant, lip balm, feminine products, and non-perishable food items like small packages of crackers and cheese, granola bars, tuna/peanut butter packs, and beef jerky. Please put your items in the bin in the entryway. (And check out the article about our special Super Bowl sock collection.)

Tuesday Bible Study

Join us every Tuesday at 10:30 AM for our Community Bible Study. Everyone is welcome—come and be part of this time of learning and fellowship! We are now looking at *When Bad Things Happen to Good People* By Harold S. Kushner.

Lunch Bunch on Monday, February 9th

Join us for Lunch Bunch Monday, February 9th in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited and it starts at 11:30 AM. Please RSVP to Lynn Hornecker.

Essential Jesus Bible Studies Become Wednesday Night Soup Suppers

We've been holding Essential Jesus bible studies on Zoom every Wednesday throughout January. However, during the five Wednesdays in Lent (February 25, and March 4, 11, 18 and 25) we'll gather in-person for a soup supper, and then we'll spend time looking at our Essential Bible reading addressed in the prior Sunday sermon. Meals start at 6 pm, and we begin our discussion around 6:30, finishing by 7:15 (Sign-up sheets for everyone who wishes to bring soups and breads are on the council table, or call the church office if you can help.) We will also be on zoom for those who cannot make it in person.

February 18 Ash Wednesday Worship

Ash Wednesday is right around the corner - Wednesday, February 18. So here are two things you need to know: First, our Ash Wednesday worship service is at 6 pm that night.

This is a wonderful opportunity to start Lent off on the right foot, by reminding ourselves who we are and whose we are. Second, if you'd like to have ashes imposed on Wednesday, but can't make it to our 6 pm service, please contact Dana. We'll try to find a time that works for you. (There will be no zoom Essential Jesus bible study on Ash Wednesday so we can all attend worship.)

Pastoral Care Emergencies

If you need pastoral care in an emergency situation (hospitalization, accident, death) and it is during church office hours, Monday - Thursday - 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM, please contact Alison. If outside those office hours, you can contact Pastor Dana directly at: **414-916-3241**. You can reach her by email at: **dana@gloryofgodchurch.net**

Lunch Bunch

We will gather on Monday, February 9th at 11:30 AM. Please contact Lynn Hornecker if you plan to attend or need a ride.

GOG Craft Group

Friday, February 13th & 28th
at 11:00 AM in the fellowship hall.
See Debbie Losey if you would like to participate.
Everyone is welcome!

GOG Bible Study

Tuesdays at 10:30 AM
in the conference room.
Everyone is welcome, any time!
Please join us!

Office Hours

Pastor Dana

Tuesdays, Wednesdays,
from 10:00 AM.

Schedule varies based on
GOG events. Please contact
her directly to schedule
an appointment.

414-916-3241

dana@gloryofgodchurch.net

Church Office

Mon. – Thurs., 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
303-421-2721

Michael

Mon. – Thurs., 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Sun., 7:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Rick

Wed., 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

GLORY OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

12200 West 38th Avenue Wheat
Ridge, Colorado

www.gloryofgodchurch.net

Ministers: Members and Friends of
Glory of God

Pastor: Dana O'Brien
dana@gloryofgodchurch.net

Parish Administrator: Michael Taggart
pa@gloryofgodchurch.net

Tech Admin: Michael Taggart
tech@gloryofgodchurch.net

Music Coordinator: Roz Kueter

Choir Director: Colleen Turner

Accompanist: Matheus Pagliacci

Daylight Savings Time Starts on Sunday March 8

Advance notice -- remember to move your clocks forward an hour before you go to bed on Saturday night, March 7.

Wrapped Candy Needed for our GOG Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt

Our second annual Glory of God Community Easter Egg Hunt (which occurs on Saturday, April 4) is a ways off, but we need to start preparing now for all the kids and families we hope will attend the event. (You may remember that last year we had to deal with snow on the morning of our egg hunt. I'm positive that our weather this year will be better.) We already have over 2000 plastic eggs, but need everyone's help to bring in bags of wrapped Easter candy to fill the eggs. (Remember, the candy has to be individually wrapped and small enough to fit in those little eggs.) Starting Sunday, February 15, we'll have containers near the front door and in the Fellowship Hall for the candy. Thanks everyone!!

The Blessing Board

We are excited to introduce a Blessing Board in our Fellowship Hall. You'll find it on the east wall, and it is meant to be a place of encouragement, gratitude, and shared blessings within our church family.

The board will feature blessings shared in our newsletter, as well as individual blessings that you are invited to add yourself.

Whether it's a prayer, a note of thanks, a simple reminder of God's presence, or words of appreciation and encouragement for others in our church community, these blessings help build one another up.

A special thank you to Bob Lundgren for making the Blessing Board possible and helping bring this idea to life.

We invite everyone to stop by, read the blessings, and add one of your own as we start the year grounded in gratitude and faith.

We're Looking for More Ministry Assistants

In Lutheran circles, our worship service liturgy is known as the work of the people, because it's where we all get to participate in praising and worshiping God. And throughout January, we debuted new ministry assistants every Sunday. These folks did a great job helping with liturgy and leading our congregational prayers. Right now, we have four ministry assistants, but we'd love to have even more. If this is something you may be interested in doing, please contact Dana.

Get Connected on Social Media

We are trying to increase our social media presence, and we'd like your help. Glory of God currently has a Facebook page where we post at least once every day. If you are on Facebook, we'd appreciate it if you could follow our page and like, comment and/or share our posts. The same thing goes for Instagram and X. Glory of God is active on both of those social media sites, and if you are as well, please interact with our posts. And make sure you subscribe to Glory of God Lutheran Church on YouTube, and check out our Glory of God website where you can find important links to worship service info and events coming up. Your likes, shares, and comments help us reach more people in our community and share God's love far and wide!

Men's Group

We extend a heartfelt thank you to our Men's Group for an incredible year of fellowship, fun, and service. From bowling and playing pool, to dominoes at MorningStar Assisted Living, the corn maze, the Trail of Lights, and serving our community—we have built friendships together and strengthened our church family. Looking ahead to 2026, we invite your ideas for future activities and service opportunities. Please talk to Michael.

We're also excited for a Men's Retreat to Glen Isle Resort in October 2026, with more details to come.

Whether you're looking for fellowship, fun, service, or connection, there's a place for you—and we are so happy to walk these adventures together in friendship and camaraderie

Child Priority Updates

We are excited about February and all the love it brings! To celebrate, children are invited to wear their pajamas to school on the two days leading up to Valentine's Day. For lunch, we will be hosting a "Pizza, Popcorn, Pears, and Pie" party.

Additionally, children bring Valentine's cards for all of their friends. They will be able to drop them into the decorated bags they create here at school.

Wishing everyone a month full of kindness, friendship and love,
Vanda

GOG Contacts

Pastor Dana O'Brien

414-916-3241

dana@gloryofgodchurch.net

Church Office/ Parish Administrator

303-421-2721

pa@gloryofgodchurch.net

Michael Taggart/ Technical Administrator

303-421-2721

tech@gloryofgodchurch.net

Rick Johnson/ Assistant Treasurer

303-421-2721

assist.treasurer@gloryofgodchurch.net

GOG Council

President

Ali Arend

Vice President

Ann Craig

Secretary

Nancy Hornecker

Treasurer

Connie Bartram

Worship

Jeri Schmelzel

Property

Brad Willey

Community Outreach & Social Ministry

Kathryn Gault

Fellowship

Bob Lundgren &
Nita Barchus

Bless You...

- **Ali Arend, Ann Craig, Nancy Hornecker and Connie Bartram, our Executive Committee on Church Council.** You all do SO MANY THINGS behind the scene that go unnoticed, but are a great benefit to our congregation.
- **Pastor Dana** for a year of bringing Glory of God together, to know each other better, to know our selves better, and to be present in our community, also for your amazing sermon series.
- **Ali Arend** for getting the delinquent property tax statement and related information.
- **Michael Taggart** for all he does at GOG.
- **To ALL** who volunteer in the sound booth. Because of our outstanding Tech Team, our worship experience is enhanced.
- **Rick Johnson** for all the many hats he wears at GOG including doing the PowerPoint for Sunday Services.
- **June Marquez** for the building looking SO much better - especially the floors & cleaner bathrooms.
- **Counters** for staying on top of the funds we receive.
- **Choir and praise band** for sharing your musical gifts and making worship a more meaningful experience.
- **Greeters** who come early to make Glory of God a welcoming space.
- **Alter Guild** that works behind the scenes each week to prepare the sanctuary for worship.
- **Roz Kueter** for looking for more volunteers to vocally lead music during service.
- **To all** who have stepped up to serve communion or do the readings.
- **Many thanks to the Worship committee of Roz, Jan, Jeri, Colleen and Dana** who put in many hours to create meaningful services throughout the year.
- **Praise Band** for the hours they put in practicing and performing for us.
- **Debbie Losey** for the extra work she does at GOG - craft group, communion and so much more!
- **Colleen Turner** for conducting the choir.
- **Brad Willey & Bob Lundgren** for their constant support, helpful hands, and unfailing patience whenever something needs fixing.
- **Council Members** - Thank you for keeping our church running and for all the behind the scenes work the council has been doing to support GOG.
- **Bob Lundgren and Earl Bartrum** for hanging up the new wall art in the fellowship hall.
- **Nancy Hornecker** for the many things she does behind the scenes.
- **Bingo volunteers** - Thank you to all the volunteers that spend every Saturday at bingo without fail - you have no idea how much help that is to us.
- **Bob Lundgren and Nita Bachus** for running fellowship each Sunday.
- **Connie Bartram** for all the work you do in the office keeping our giving records up to date.
- **Congregation** for taking several minutes to "Pass the Peace".
- **Colleen & Matteus** for putting up with the antics of choir.
- **All the parishioners** who work after church services to decorate the church